

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
December 11, 2000  
MAG Offices  
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix, Chairman	Mayor Cynthia Dunham, Gilbert
* Mayor John Keegan, Peoria, Vice Chairman	Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear
Mayor Jay Tibshraeny, Chandler	

\* Not present

1. Call to Order

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Skip Rimsza at 12:08 p.m.

2. Approval of October 5, 2000, October 23, 2000 and October 25, 2000 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Mayor Dunham moved to approve the October 5, 2000, October 23, 2000 and October 25, 2000 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Mayor Tibshraeny seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Planning for the Regional Council Retreat

James M. Bourey handed out the Management Committee retreat agenda, scheduled from 8:30 a.m. until after lunch on Friday, December 15, 2000 at the Phoenix Airport Marriott. He reviewed topics that will be discussed, including a View of the Valley in 2040. Mr. Bourey asked if members had additional topics for the Regional Council retreat agenda. Mayor Dunham stated that she liked the half day format and the use of a facilitator. Chairman Rimsza commented that he had no additional specific issues that would require discussion at the Regional Council retreat. He commented that conclusions from the Management Committee retreat would be discussed at the Regional Council retreat.

4. Follow-up on MAG/PAG Joint Meeting

Mr. Bourey stated that efforts are continuing to work with the State's mayors on the statewide tax ballot planned for 2002. Chairman Rimsza stated that the Northeast Mayors are scheduled to meet on January 8, 2001. He requested that MAG produce materials for the meeting. Chairman Rimsza noted the concern of the rural communities that they will be shortchanged in a statewide tax. Chairman Rimsza

stated that he recently met with Marty Shultz and Sharon Megdal, co-chairs of the Governor's Vision 21 Task Force, to maintain communications on this issue.

5. Alternative Fuels Update

Lindy Bauer stated that the Legislature has been working intensively on a solution to the Alternative Fueled Vehicle Program issue. On December 4, 2000, they passed Senate Bill 1004 to help alleviate the impact of the Program. Ms. Bauer stated that the bill allows the State to borrow money from the rainy day fund and repay the loan at a rate of \$16 million per year for approximately 12.5 years. Ms. Bauer explained the limits imposed by the bill. Those who have entered into a contract or purchase order by October 20, 2000 are eligible. Vehicles received or paid for in full by December 1, 2000 are eligible. Ms. Bauer stated that cancellations of contracts not falling within these guidelines are encouraged. She stated that the applications for the tax credit are due by December 31, 2000. She mentioned that money is available to reimburse those who cancel their contracts for costs they may incur. Ms. Bauer stated that claims must be submitted to the Arizona Department of Administration by March 2, 2001. Ms. Bauer stated that satisfactory evidence of use of alternative fuels is required for those claiming a rebate. The bill also requires the vehicles to take the emissions test prior to registration and every two years thereafter. She indicated that malfunctioning alternatively fueled engines contribute more pollution than gasoline engines. Ms. Bauer stated that qualifying vehicles must be kept in the state for 36 months with no transfer of title.

Ms. Bauer stated that a Study Committee is examining impacts. Expected total costs are approximately \$200 million, instead of the projected \$683 million. Ms. Bauer stated that the Governor requested that MAG assist in evaluating the air quality impacts of the \$683 million program. The impact on air quality was determined to be .1 percent reduction in emissions which contribute to carbon monoxide and ozone. The majority of dedicated alternative fuel vehicles purchased was the Honda Civic.

Ms. Bauer stated that staff was considering drafting a map of public alternative fuel stations, which may also include private stations. She stated that a brochure may be a handy reference for glove compartments. Norris Nordvold explained the payment after distribution. Mayor Arnold asked whether stations include signage indicating that alternative fuels are available. Ms. Bauer indicated that the stations had signs for the type of alternative fuel offered. Chairman Rimsza stated that 10,000 brochures would be needed. He commented on the cost and responsibility factors. Ms. Bauer stated that current plans are to produce only one map for consideration by the Executive Committee.

Mayor Dunham asked whether a buyer could choose not to apply for reimbursement and thus be excused from reporting. Ms. Bauer stated that the buyer could choose to apply for reimbursement and comply with the requirements, or not apply and pay associated costs. Mayor Tibshraeny requested that a fact sheet be drafted showing the details discussed. Chairman Rimsza thanked Ms. Bauer for her report.

7. Governor's Brown Cloud Summit Recommendations

This agenda item was taken out of order.

Chairman Rimsza stated that the tourist industry could suffer because of the brown cloud. He commented on not supporting a standard that the region could be unable to meet. He introduced Gaye Knight, with Environmental Programs at the City of Phoenix. Ms. Knight gave an overview of the Brown Cloud Summit. She said that the Summit recommended most of the proposed measures at their meeting on December 5, 2000. The final meeting to recommend measures for the draft report is scheduled for December 12, 2000. Ms. Knight indicated that the measures will provide health benefits by reducing particulates and toxic emissions.

Ms. Knight explained the visibility index. She stated that Denver selected 40 miles as their Clean Air Standard, which is accomplished by no fireplace burn days; however, this 40 mile standard occurs in Phoenix only 90 days per year. This visibility index could create a potential for negative news stories. Ms. Knight stated that a Blue Sky Index replaced the visibility standard. The interim target is 25 miles, which occurs in the region 275 days per year. She expressed concern with the public survey process, which may lead to a standard the region could be unable to meet. Chairman Rimsza commented that the days when the index would not be met could be prime tourist days. It would not be advantageous to have new stories appear that the index was not met. He noted that experts have expressed that the visibility will only worsen. Ms. Knight stated that California set a visibility standard. She stated that there are no federal requirements for a visibility standard, and is voluntary on the part of urban areas. Ms. Knight stated that there is a 60-year time frame to clean up national parks.

Ms. Knight described the measures that could impact cities and towns. The voluntary diesel retrofit and new fuel would cost approximately \$8,000 to \$12,000 to retrofit a diesel vehicles This retrofit of vehicles and equipment would be on a voluntary basis. Inadequate fuel supplies, equipment costs, and fuel logistics are issues.

Ms. Knight stated that the Clean Business Program provides bid incentives for clean businesses, which would be certified by ADEQ. Chairman Rimsza expressed concern that this could raise the cost of government. He indicated that bid preference not only includes goods, but services. Ms. Knight explained that the process included city and state contracts. Ms. Knight explained the Program, where emissions can be “banked” for future use or sale, is a very complex program used nationally. She mentioned that Ed Fox from APS endorses the program. Ms. Knight stated that the program may include both off-road and on-road vehicles. She stated that there are concerns for impacts to the conformity budgets. Chairman Rimsza requested an update on the PM-10 street sweeper testing. Ms. Knight replied that California has certified approximately 12 sweepers. She stated that the MAG feasibility study is examining the sweepers’ operational characteristics. It was felt that certifying sweepers was not needed since the official PM-10 certification had already been done in California.

Ms. Knight stated that other measures that could impact cities include diesel idling restrictions and use of CARB diesel. She mentioned that CARB diesel could be an effective measure, but is quite expensive, potentially increasing fuel cost 10 to 12 cents per gallon. Ms. Knight stated that additional measures include prohibiting generators at construction sites, which could be enforced through local building

permits; that MAG continue support for PM-10 sweepers beyond 2005; voluntary purchase of clean vehicles and equipment; and mandatory training for county dust permits. Chairman Rimsza explained a state banking program where older urban vehicles are swapped to rural areas, where there are no air quality challenges. He mentioned that this also helps rural areas meet their equipment needs. Ms. Knight mentioned that an additional measure includes banning leaf blowers. Chairman Rimsza thanked Ms. Knight for her report. He requested that a synopsis of the report be prepared for Regional Council members' information.

6. Executive Director Evaluation - Action Plan

This agenda item was taken out of order.

To evaluate the Executive Director for the 2001 calendar year, an action plan has been prepared. The Executive Committee may vote to recess the meeting and go into executive session to discuss personnel matters relating to the MAG Executive Director evaluation. The meeting may then be reconvened to make recommendations regarding the evaluation. The authority for such an executive session is A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1).

Mayor Tibshraeny moved to recess the Executive Committee meeting to conduct an executive session and to reconvene the meeting for possible action on matters relating to the evaluation of the MAG Executive Director. Mayor Dunham seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Executive Committee adjourned at 12:55 p.m. to conduct the executive session. The Executive Committee meeting reconvened at 1:05 p.m. Mayor Dunham moved to endorse the Executive Director's Action Plan for 2001. Mayor Tibshraeny seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary